REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed October 18, 2004. Claims 45-66 were pending in the application. Claims 45, 51-54, and 65 have been amended and claims 46-50; 55-65 and claim 66 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced. Thus, claims 45, 51-54, and 65 are submitted for reconsideration at this time. Favorable reconsideration of claims 45, 51-54, and 65 is respectfully solicited.

A.   Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 45-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. These claims recited the term "decoding" a digital representation. Claims reciting "decoding" have been amended to recite the word "analyzing," which is a more accurate representation of the techniques used by the present invention. The rejection is believed to be overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 45-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. These claim recited the term "mapping." In this invention, the "mapping" operation is not a one-step operation that immediately converts any incoming digital data directly bitwise into ASCII format, but instead employs algorithms to match the analyzed digital data with data contained within the library. Claims reciting the term "mapping" have been amended to reflect this subtlety. The rejection is believed to be overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 52 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 for being indefinite. These claims were amended to depend from a claim in which user input has an antecedent. The rejection is believed to be overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Lastly, claims 51 and 56 were rejected as being indefinite and lacking proper antecedent basis. These claims were amended for clarity. The rejection is believed to be overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

B.   Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 45-48, 54, 55 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Hutchins US Pat No. 5,208,897.

The invention claimed in claim 45 includes mapping each N-bit group into a character and generating a stream of characters from the binary stream and parsing the stream of characters into groups of characters representative of words. These characters are grouped into words based on the ASCII space between the grouped letters. Syllables of the digital representation of the speech are determined and used to confirm that the grouped ASCII characters is correct using syllable tables to improve accuracy.

Hutchins discloses a system for speech recognition based on sub-syllable spelling. Hutchins' voice recognition system is solely based on phonetics. In Hutchins incoming speech is digitized and the digitized data is broken into cohesive segments. Each segment of digitized data generates "one or more frames of SubSyllable symbols." Each frame contains "two or more SubSyllable symbols." SubSyllable symbols characterize major and minor phonetic attributes. The sequences of SubSyllables symbols are mapped into syllables, and the sequences of syllables symbols are *combined* into words, based on the predetermined lookup tables. (emphasis added)

Hutchins fails to disclose mapping each N-bit group into a character as recited in claim 45 of the present application. The Examiner asserts that SubSyllable matching process of Hutchins, where each segment of digitized data is converted into an ASCII spelling of SubSyllables, corresponds to the mapping limitation recited in claim 45. The Examiner is incorrect. In the SubSyllable matching process of Hutchins each segment of

digitized data generates "one or more frames of SubSyllable symbols" and each frame contains "two or more SubSyllable symbols." Accordingly, each segment of digitized data maps into two or more characters and not "a character" as recited in claim 45.

Hutchins also fails to disclose parsing the stream of characters into groups of characters representative of words as recited in claim 45 of the present application. The Examiner asserts that the syllable to word process of Hutchins, where syllable are converted into words, corresponds to the parsing the stream of characters into groups of characters representative of words recited in claim 45. The Examiner is again incorrect. In the syllable to word process of Hutchins, stream of characters are "combined" into groups of characters and not "parsed" into groups of characters. Thus, Hutchins fails to disclose the claimed elements recited in claim 45.

Pending claims 46-48 and 54 depend from claim 45 and thus are not taught or suggested for at least the reasons indicated above with respect to claim 45.

C.   Claim Rejections –35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 49-53, 56, 57 and 59-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Hutchins US Pat No. 5,208,897 in view of Gould US Pat No. 5,794,189.

The deficiencies of Hutchins are not cured by Gould. Gould does not teach mapping each subset of the digital representation of speech into a character representation and parsing the stream of character representations into words or mapping each N-bit group into a character and parsing the stream of characters into groups of characters representative of words as recited by claims 45 and 66. Accordingly, the combination of Hutchins and Gould does not teach or suggest the invention now claimed by claims 45 and 66.
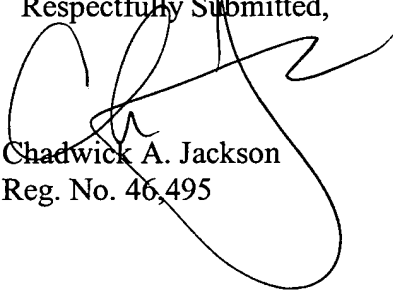
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Pending claim 49-53 depend from claim 45. Accordingly, the combination of Hutchins and Gould does not teach or suggest the invention now claimed by claims 49-53 for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 45.

D.   Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is allowable over the references relied upon in the Office Action. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (25241.0002).

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Respectfully Submitted,

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